# Carolina Country

DECEMBER, 1973

# Carolina Country READER

## A Book for People Who Like People & North Carolina

### By Jim Chaney. Foreword by Sam Ragan

**Designed and illustrated by Dave Burngasser**

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COVER — Tingling with anticipation, the children arrive at Grandaddy's house and race to the porch to throw themselves into his arms. Grandnanny busy in the kitchen. Mama and Daddy will follow as soon as they've unloaded the family car. In the Grandma Moses manner, artist Dot Stell portrays a scene which is a Christmas tradition throughout Carolina Country. For those Tar Heels lucky enough to have known the happiness of it, Christmas with their grandparents is a memory to be cherished even until they are grandparents themselves.

This Month . . .

YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT
THE REAL CHRISTMAS
TILL THE DOCTOR COMES
THE CAROLINA HOMEMAKER
CONSUMER NEWS
THE POET'S CORNER
EARTH WALK

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# May This Christmas Be Your Best

*When I was younger writing Under the Dome*
*I'd try each Christmas to fashion a poem*
*About the people 'round Capitol Square,*
*Laboriously fitting each name to rhyme*
*To wish all the best at Christmas time.*

I'm not up to versifying at the moment, but the Christmas mood is on me, and I want to share the spirit of it and send greetings, albeit in prose:

To Governor Jim Holshouser and Lieutenant Governor Jim Hunt. Both deserve a vote of thanks for their efforts in behalf of the people of North Carolina.

To Speaker of the House Jim Ramsey and the other members of the State House of Representatives, and to Senate President Pro Tem. Gordon Allen and the other members of the State Senate. They showed in the 1973 General Assembly that our legislators as a body put North Carolina first.

To the hard-working members of the State Supreme Court, members of the State Court of Appeals, Superior Court judges and District Court judges. May their dockets be lighter.

To U.S. Senator Sam Ervin Jr. and U.S. Senator Jesse Helms, with personal best wishes to both.

To Congressmen Walter Jones, L.H. Fountain, David Henderson, Ike Andrews, Wilmer Mizell, Richardson Preyer, Charles Rose, Earl Ruth, James Martin, James Broyhill and Roy Taylor, with appreciation for their concern for rural people.

To Attorney General Bob Morgan, for courage in the public's behalf; likewise to Hugh Wells and his fellow Commissioners.

To my old friends Thad Eure, Jim Graham, Edwin Gill and Henry Bridges, and also Billy Creel, John Ingram, Dr. Craig Phillips and the appointive members of Governor Holshouser's Cabinet.

To the directors, managers and employees of all of our electric cooperatives and telephone cooperatives, for dedicated service to their members and communities.

To the newest members of the *Carolina Country* family, the North Carolinians served by Blue Ridge Mountain EMC.

To all readers of *Carolina Country*, and to all who love North Carolina and Christmas.

May you know this Christmas every joy of Christmas and may the New Year bring you lasting happiness.

*Jim Chaney*

# YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT

## A Report by Rep. David N. Henderson, Third District

**This is the fifth in a series of messages prepared for *Carolina Country* by members of North Carolina's Congressional delegation**

As the Third District's Congressman, Representative Henderson serves the people of Bladen, Duplin, Harnett, Johnston, Lee, Onslow, Pender, Sampson and Wayne counties. His home address is Wallace. His district offices are in Goldsboro.

Following the 1960 census, the Commerce Department published a list of rural congressional districts. Based on its statistical definition of the term "rural," it found that the Third District of North Carolina, which I have had the honor to represent for thirteen years, was one of the most rural districts in the United States. I, frankly, have been proud of that fact and have alluded to it many times in talking to colleagues, informally or in debate, on the House floor.

Like others who have lived all their lives in rural areas, I have tended to feel that urban blight, characterized by run-down, slum housing, ugly commerical centers, crowded traffic, overloaded water and sewer systems, factory smoke and grit permeating the air, and rivers and streams filled with scrap and waste of all kinds and descriptions, were things which existed in the major industrial cities of the rest of the country and could not happen to us.

However, they are happening to us. As I travel through the nine counties of the Third District today, I see more and more signs of these very things. These are mobile homes scattered everywhere, both singly and in parks and large subdivisions. Abandoned motor vehicles, pieces of farm equipment or other debris are prominent on almost every rural road. In our cities and towns, there is evidence of the same kind of downtown decay and surburban growth at the fringes which has become characteristic of northern cities. Large areas of our tidal waters are so polluted that they are closed to shell-fishing and not even suitable for swimming.

Most of us — even those considerably younger than I — can point to spots where we hunted, fished or enjoyed outdoor sports as youngsters and which are now cleared and developed residentially, commercially, or both.

I am not one of those who lives under the illusion that we can and should try to make our country what it was in the days of the early settlers in North Carolina and elsewhere in the South. However, I do feel that we, in eastern North Carolina, have the obligation to try to preserve something of our unspoiled, rural heritage for our grandchildren and future generations.

Nobody blames a landowner for using his land in the manner he deems most profitable. However, if we all continue to do that, without any regard for our environment and for other people, eventually, we will face increasing land controls at every level of government. Hopefully, the people of eastern North Carolina will be concerned enough about this problem to begin to work today toward local solutions which are fair to all concerned.

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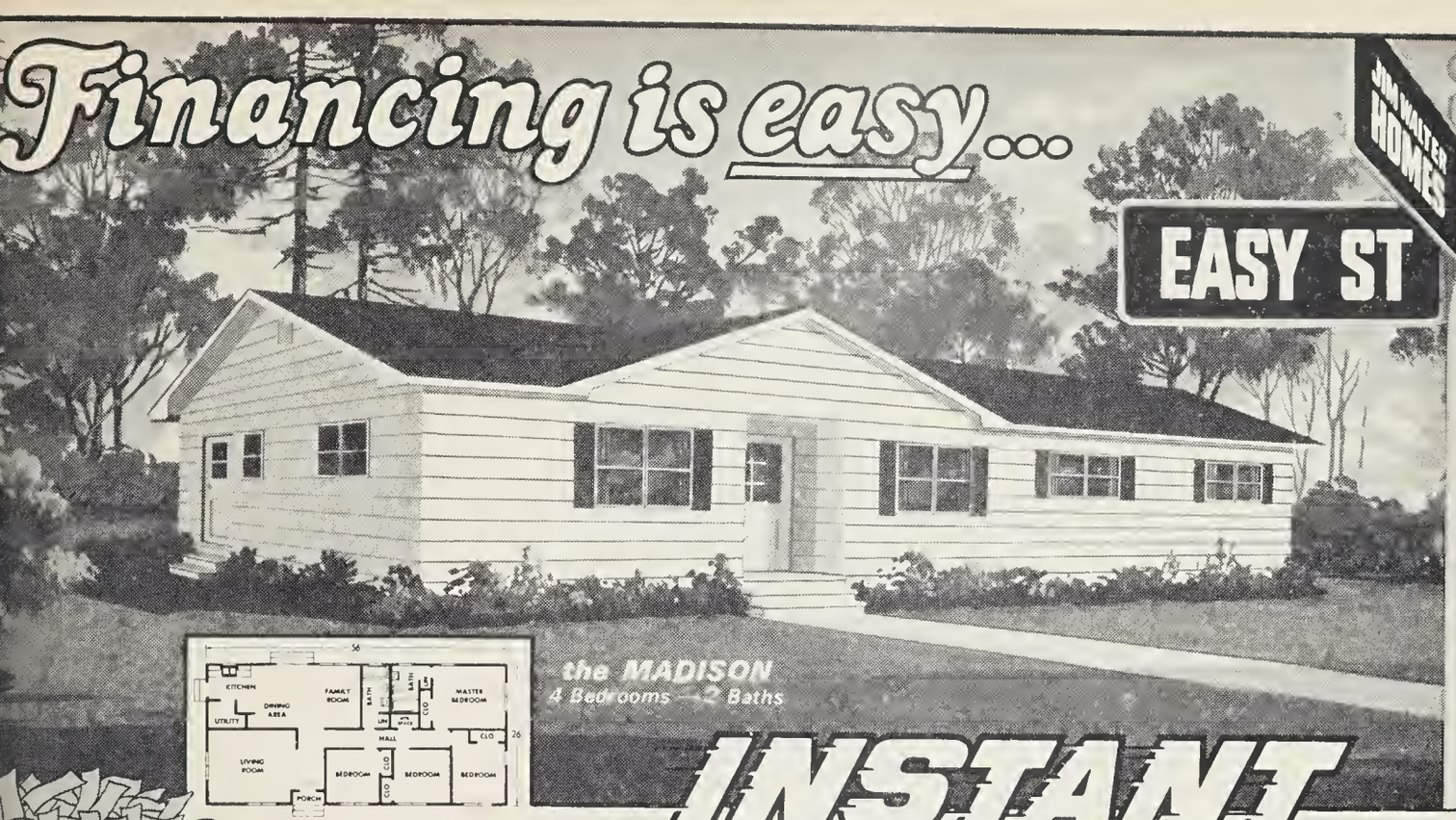




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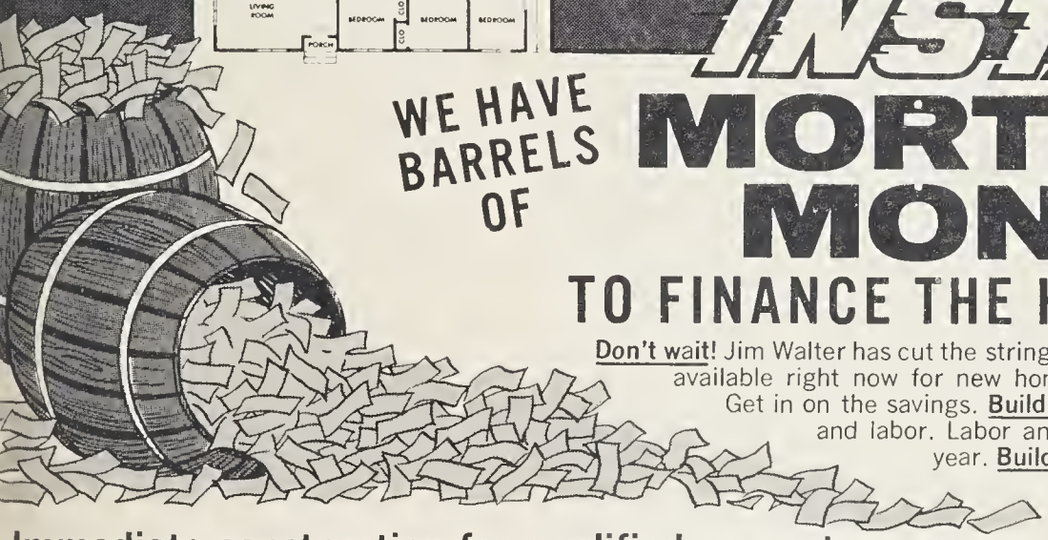

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# The Real Meaning Of Christmas

By Bill Humphries

It happened years ago, in the days of the Big Depression, when I was a boy growing up on the hilly Person County farm where my parents and their brood of eight children – six boys and two girls – were trying to eke out a living.

During one particular year of those trying times, my most unforgettable Christmas occurred. It really wasn't a "big deal." I didn't catch my first glimpse of Santa Claus that year, nor did I find a shiny new bike under the Christmas tree next morning. In fact, there wasn't any tree, for we had no electric power on the farm in those days and we couldn't decorate a tree properly.

My "special" Christmas – perhaps long since forgotten even by my remaining brothers and sisters – came about as the result of a suggestion by my brother Earl. He and I were quite close during our growing-up period because we were only a couple of years apart in age (he was older), and we shared many boyhood experiences.

My father, who seemed to us boys to possess a remarkable talent for "thinking up jobs" to keep us occupied during the days and hours when we weren't in school, always set aside the day before Christmas as wood-sawing time. A Fordson tractor furnished power for the circular saw. Pine, sawed in to 15-inch lengths, was to be split later, as needed, for use in the cookstove. Hardwood, about twice that length, was for the fireplace.

Once the wood-sawing was completed, usually by about mid-afternoon, and the tools and equipment put away, we were assigned various other jobs around the house and yard. On this particular day, Earl motioned me aside for a conference.

"Why don't we give everybody a Christmas surprise and get up real early tomorrow morning and do all the chores?" he asked.

"Do you really mean it?" I wanted to know. He replied he did.

Somehow, the idea appealed to me. We agreed to keep our little plan secret and to get up at 4 o'clock Christmas morning to get started.

Earl and I giggled at the supper table that night as we exchanged knowing glances, delighting in the fact that those we intended to help didn't have the slightest idea of what was afoot.

With no alarm clock, how did we manage to wake ourselves up at 4 a.m.? I don't know. Perhaps it was sheer excitement that caused us to awake to the agreed-upon time.

We dressed in the darkness of our room and then quietly went downstairs to the back porch to get a kerosene lantern. Once out of the house and beyond the woodshed, we used a big wooden kitchen match to light the lantern.

The first chore was feeding the three mules – Dave, an aging, slow and imperturbable plodder; Dan, young, quick and fiery in temperament; and Mary, the unpredictable female.

Each mule received a few ears of corn and a couple of armfuls of dry feed that consisted of chopped-up corn stalks and leaves. Later, during the day when it was warmer, the animals would be let out to pasteur and water.

The next job on our list was feeding and milking the two family cows. This was no problem, since both Earl and I knew how to milk. In fact, milking was a chore handed down from the oldest child to the next and the next, and so on. Other chores could be done ahead of time, or put off, but milking had to be done at approximately the same hour every morning and every night.

We took the two containers of milk to the kitchen. Then we decided to go feed the hogs – with several ears of corn and a big bucketful of slop – and bring fresh drinking water from the spring.

By this time, Mom and Dad were up, and of course they wondered what on earth was going on. We told them, but asked them not to say anything to the rest of the family until we had finished carrying out our plan.

Splitting stovewood and bringing in wood for the fireplace were the two remaining jobs that had to be done before breakfast. We finished them in short order.

Santa Claus, who really had a rough go of it during the Depression, managed to provide for each of us boys and girls a few goodies in a stocking – an orange, an apple, and a few raisins and pieces of hard candy. But as for toys – well, only the younger children received any of them. Things like a rubber ball, a toy farm well, and a small, wind-up type motorcycle that went around in a circle were typical. Somehow these don't sound very exciting when compared with the presents that today's children get, but they really meant something back during the "hard times" of the early 1930's.

The younger children – Joe, Ruby, Tommy – received toys on Christmas morning this particular year. They were all awake, young and old, by the time Earl and I brought in wood for stove and fireplace.

Dad, who usually fed the hogs and brought fresh water from the spring, was surprised to find the bucket of slop gone and the wooden bucket of drinking water full.

"Who did all this?" he asked.

"Earl and I did," I said. "We really pulled one over on you, didn't we?"

Dad admitted that we had.

Then Earl spoke up and told everyone that all the chores had been done.

"But why? Why did you do all that?" asked Clarence, our oldest brother.

"I don't know," Earl said. "I guess we wanted to do a little something special this Christmas. Besides, deep down, it gives you a good feeling when you know you're helping others."

The memory of that particular Christmas has meant much to me over the years. It still brings a warm glow to my heart.

Why is the memory so vivid? Why does that Christmas, of all the Christmases I have experienced, stand out as something special?

Perhaps the reason is that I learned, under special circumstances and in an unforgettable way, the real joy that can come to a person who gives – not money or material possessions or anything money can buy – but who gives a part of self.

In so many families today, children simply inform their parents weeks ahead of time as to exactly what they want for Christmas. And the parents comply with their wishes. On Christmas morning the desired gift usually is there, but seldom is there an element of surprise, nor does the giving seem to bring to parents the warm glow, the feeling of satisfaction that it should bring.

Many parents today may feel like clerks in a catalogue order store. The child comes up, places his order, and eventually gets exactly what he has ordered.

Throughout history, men (and women too) have attempted to measure their lives – their jobs, their marriages, their roles as parents – in terms of material things.

We live in the midst of a material world, and – short of death – there is no way we can escape it completely.

But can't we at least at Christmas, try to place the emphasis and focus the attention on things that are more important than the material?

At this Yuletide season, let us join with the Psalmist (51:7) in this simple prayer:

"Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."

Such a prayer can change lives. It can change a world.

A "right spirit" would include the realization of that eternal truth from the New Testament: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Especially when one gives, not silver or gold or anything that these precious metals may buy, but when he gives of himself.

To me, that is the real meaning of Christmas.

The first chore was feeding the three mules.

Walstonburg's family nurse practitioner Donna Schafer with patient.

# Till the Doctor Comes

By Peggy Payne

What can be done to provide people in communities without doctors a measure of medical care?

Governor Jim Holshouser has recommended, as part of a multi-pronged program to deal with the problem, a system of community health clinics staffed by "physician extenders."

The term refers to family nurse practitioners and physicians' assistants who would operate the clinics under supervision of nearby doctors.

As a first phase in the "physician extender" clinic plan, five community clinics are to open in a year at Bakersville in Mitchell County, East Bend in Yadkin County, Newton Grove in Sampson County, Whitakers in Edgecombe County, and on the Outer Banks in Dare County.

James Bernstein, chief of rural health services in the State Department of Human Resources, says the locations of five other community clinics will be announced in January.

But North Carolina already has a handful of clinics of this kind. Few health professionals see the concept as the one answer to doctor shortages. The attitude is generally that it is one part of a solution. "It's not a good answer, but it's something there when you need it," said John Payne of the division of community medical care under the University of North Carolina Medical Center. "But it's better than nothing."

He, and many others, see this as one element in a combination of approaches.

Physician extender clinics already in operation are located in Prospect Hill, Haywood-Moncure, Chapel Hill, Rougemont-Bahama, Madison County, Walstonburg, and Farmington.

The Walstonburg clinic is a good example of what such a clinic can be. It has been operating for six months under the guidance of family nurse practitioner Miss Donna Schafer.

The clinic is housed in a very modern cedar building, with bright colors and lots of space, designed by the Community Development Group of the School of Design at N.C. State University.

It offers physical examinations, the treatment of acute minor conditions, follow-up on chronic conditions such as diabetes and hypertension, immunizations, suturing of minor lacerations, lab service, Pap smears, electrocardiagrams, "almost every diagnosis and treatment that can be done in a regular doctor's office," Miss Schafer explained.

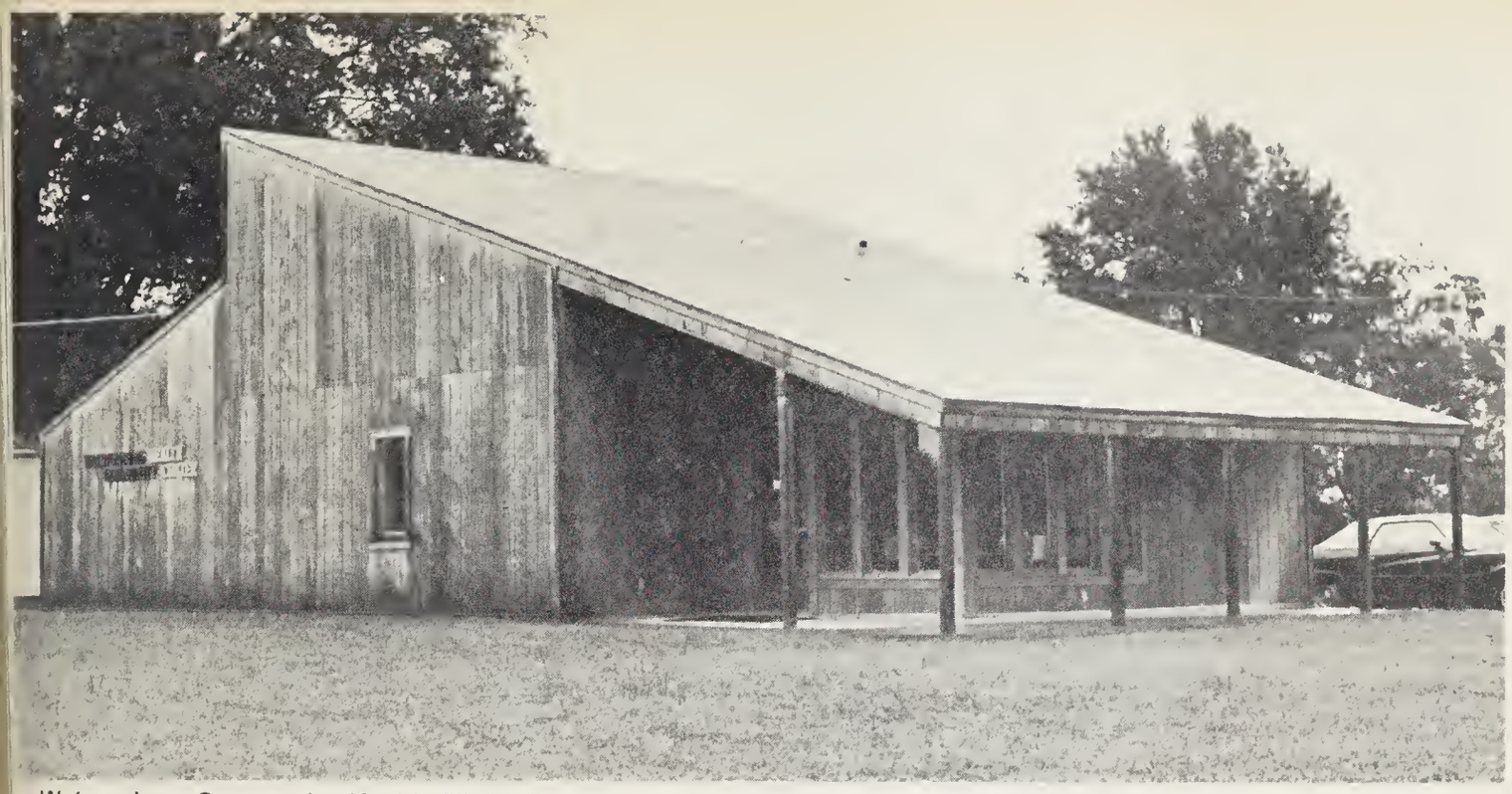
There are four people on the staff. In addition to the family nurse practitioner, there is a licensed practical nurse, a health worker, and a secretary-receptionist. The family nurse practitioner is a registered nurse with six months of additional special training and a six-month internship. Miss Schafer spent two years in the Peace Corps in Bolivia, and holds a master's degree in community nursing.

Walstonburg has about 200 people though the clinic serves the whole area. There are no geographic limits to the service area. People came from Greene County and from the surrounding counties. The average now is about 10 patients a day.

There are no doctors in Walstonburg and the only one in the county is a general practitioner in Snow Hill. "People would go to Farmville or Wilson or Kinston or Goldsboro," Miss Schafer said. "There was a doctor here, but he died 10 or 11 years ago."

Wilson doctors provide back-up for the clinic, coming regularly, seeing patients that are referred by the nurse.

There is "almost daily contact" with the doctors. "If there were enough doctors to go around, it would be fine to have one here," Miss Schafer said. "But nurses have always made



**Walstonburg Community Health Clinic: For a measure of relief, "physician extenders" where doctors aren't available.**

lecisions. This is using a nurse to do vhat she has been educated to do."

The clinic works on an appoint- ıent basis, though people who come vithout an appointment are not ırned away.

It's not a free clinic. There is a fee cale for the services. Monthly state- ıents are mailed. The clinic, though artly supported by a grant now, is to e eventually self-supporting.

The community spent about three ears getting the clinic organized. A ɔmmittee of nine, all consumers, ixed by race and sex, headed the fort. It was organized with the sistance of the Health Services esearch Center in Chapel Hill. A fund ive produced $6,000 with contribu- ɔns from an estimated 90 per cent of e population of the area. Money also me from the Z. Smith Reynolds ɔundation in Winston-Salem for the ilding and some operating expenses.

Then there was a big public ations effort in the community. eople are slow to get used to the a," Miss Schafer explained. Book- s explaining the clinic were distribu- l. Speeches were made to churches d civic clubs.

This is the model for what the vernor proposed to a joint session the General Assembly earlier this ır. In describing his plan of a net- rk of clinics, he said, "Real success ries are being told by rural primary health care clinics of this type in such places as Madison County and Walstonburg community in Greene County."

Bernstein has been working since then to get this system started. Communities have made application by a letter or a phone call. Then the staff has worked with them in organizing and assessing their capabilities for setting up a clinic. About 30 communities have indicated interest.

The criteria for the choice are: need, community support, management capability, staff availability, and physician back-up. The problem of staffing is going to be solved in some cases by the State sending registered nurses from the communities to Chapel Hill for training. Cooperative doctors to back the program up are an absolute necessity.

"Fifty per cent of the program is the physician," Bernstein said. "And all physicians are not going to want to work in the program. We want the ones who are really interested in it.'

The biggest problem in setting up the clinics is education, he said. "The providers and the prospective patients have to understand what it can do and what it can't do. It's not a solution to all your problems."

"There is no one answer," he said.

Another part of the answer is a system of regional specialty clinics. This system is operated by the UNC Medical Center with funding from The Area Health Education System. These provide staff for short-term clinics in several specialities. Pediatric clinics are held in Wilmington in cardiology, hematology, and allergies. There are clinics in Elizabeth City, Jacksonville, and a variety of locations across the state.

An area health education program is also in the process of development. In this system the University Medical Center works with local hospitals across the state in training health workers at all levels.

And then there's the point of view that you have to produce more doctors. Dr. Edwin Monroe, vice chancellor for health affairs at East Carolina University, wants to produce them there. The family nurse practitioner clinics create the need for still more doctors, he says. If a nurse tells you you have diabetes, you are going to go looking for a doctor, he said as an example. "They will generate more demand for the doctors' services."

The clinics do provide "a certain level of care to people who previously had no care," he said. But it's only a limited part of the solution and dangerous to view it in any other way, he added. "The basic problem is that there are not enough doctors to practice the kind of medicine people in North Carolina need."

# The Little Stranger

By CLEMENT CLARKE MOORE

**Most children have seen a Christmas tree, and many know that the custom of hanging gifts on its boughs comes from Germany; but perhaps few have heard or read the story that is told to little German children, respecting the origin of this custom. The story is called, "The Little Stranger," and runs thus:**

In a small cottage on the borders of a forest lived a poor laborer, who gained a scanty living by cutting wood. He had a wife and two children who helped in his work. The boy's name was Valentine, and the girl was called Mary. They were obedient, good children and a great comfort to their parents. One winter evening, this happy little family were sitting quietly around the hearth, the snow and the wind raging outside, while they ate their supper of dry bread, when a gentle tap was heard on the window, and a childish voice cried from without: "Oh, let me in, pray! I am a poor child, with nothing to eat, and no home to go to, and I shall die of cold and hunger unless you let me in."

Valentine and Mary jumped up from the table and ran to open the door, saying: "Come in, poor little child! We have not much to give you, but whatever we have we will share with you gladly."

The stranger-child came in and warmed his frozen hands and feet at the fire, and the children gave him the best they had to eat, saying: "You must be tired, too, poor child! Lie down on our bed; we can sleep on the bench for one night."

"Then said the little stranger-child: "Thank God for all your kindness."

So they took their little guest into their sleeping-room, laid him on the bed, covered him over, and said to each other: "How thankful we ought to be! We have warm rooms and a cozy bed, while this poor child has only the heaven for his roof and the cold earth for his sleeping-place."

. . . These kind children had not slept many hours before Mary awoke, and softly whispered to her brother: "Valentine, dear, wake, and listen to the sweet music under the window."

Then, Valentine rubbed his eyes and listened. It was sweet music indeed, and sounded like beautiful voices singing to the tones of a harp:

"Oh holy Child, we greet thee, bringing
Sweet strains of harp to aid our singing.
Thou, holy Child, in peace art sleeping. . ."

The children listened, while a solemn joy filled their hearts; then they stepped softly to the window to see who might be without.

In the east was a streak of rosy dawn, and in its light they saw a group of children standing before the house, clothed in silver garments, holding golden harps in their hands. Amazed at this sight, the children were still gazing out of the window when a light tap caused them to turn around. There stood the stranger-child before them clad in golden dress, with a gleaming radiance round his curling hair. "I am the little Christ-child," he said, "who wanders through the world bringing peace and happiness to good children. You took me in and cared for me when you thought me a poor child, and now you shall have my blessing for what you have done."

A fir tree grew near the house; and from this He broke a twig, which He planted in the ground, saying: "This twig shall become a tree and shall bring forth fruit year by year for you."

No sooner had He done this than He vanished, and with Him the little choir of angels. But the fir-branch grew and became a Christmas tree, and on its branches hung golden apples and silver nuts every Christmastide.

**"Come in, poor little child! We have not much to give you, but whatever we have we will share with you gladly."**

Such is the story told to German children concerning their beautiful Christmas trees, though we know that the real little Christ-child can never be wandering, cold and homeless, again in our world, inasmuch as He is safe in heaven by his Father's side, yet we may gather from this story the same truth which the Bible plainly tells us — that anyone who helps a little child in distress it will be counted unto him as if he had indeed done it unto Christ himself. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

*(Note: "A Visit From St. Nicholas," commonly known as: "Twas the Night Before Christmas," was published anonymously. When the author was finally identified as Professor Clement Clarke Moore of New York, there was a great demand for him to write other Christmas pieces. He did not produce other ballads that rivaled "A Visit From St. Nicholas," but he contributed some charming essays that deserve remembrance. This is one of them.)*

# MAKE YOUR OWN

# BAYBERRY CANDLES

# FROM SCRATCH

The Carolina Homemaker
Edited by Brenda Sargent

Could we interest you in a fragrant remedy for winter doldrums: a project that could involve the whole family and might mean an off-season trip to the shore? Then try making bayberry candles "from scratch."

The wax source – the wax myrtle or bayberry (myrica cerifera and myrica pensylvanica) – is a perennial native evergreen shrub which thrives in the coastal plains from Nova Scotia to Florida, Louisiana and Arkansas. In North Carolina it can be found in more or less abundance along the coast and inland to the edges of the Piedmont. Ranging in height from three to 10 feet tall, one variety has been known to reach 40 feet in a favored site.

Myrtle Beach, S.C., is named for this plant. In its varied homes it has different names besides wax myrtle and bayberry, including candleberry, myrtle tree, puckerbush and cirier. To early settlers it was most important. Its very name derived from the service of the shrub's fruit in lighting homes. The fruit was used, to a lesser degree, to wax-polish colonial floors. Coastal people also say that a few sprigs of the bayberry buried in grain, cereal or flour containers will keep the bugs away.

Particularly fragrant are the long, narrow, leathery leaves. Dark green above, on the underside they are paler and dotted with orange resin glands which give them a delicate balsamic odor when crushed. The gray-white myrica flowers are scarcely noticeable when they open in March or April.

It is the tiny round fruits, the so-called berries, which give wax myrtle its chief interest to both birds and humans. The berries appear in clusters along short spikes, pale green covered with a gray-blue-whitish waxy coat. Beneath this the shell of the nut is thick and bony and the seed very small. These fruits ripen in September and October and remain on the branches during the winter, hence are a dependable source of food for birds. (The myrtle warbler also gets its name from the shrub!) The berries which survive birds fall irregularly in spring and early summer.

Depending on the profusion of berries, a day's picking probably will not surfeit a candlemaker with wax. It takes an enormous amount of berries for candles since only one-third the weight of each is wax. The wax is made by boiling berries in water, whereupon the melted wax rises to the surface and must be skimmed off.

An excellent wick can be made from cotton chalkline obtainable at most hardware stores. Soak the string overnight in a solution of one tablespoon of salt, two tablespoons of borax and one cup of water. Hang up to dry. This treatment will slow the rate at which the wick burns which is important to its function. Dip in melted parafin or old candle wax to stiffen. Do not make the wick too thick

Bayberry bushes can be found in abundance growing along N.C. beaches in the flat areas between sand dunes.

Photos: U.S. Soil Conservation Service

The tiny white bayberry which ripens in the fall provides an aromatic wax excellent for making candles.

or it will smoke and remember to cut the wicking several inches longer than you wish the finished candles to be.

Place the myrtle wax skimmings in a tall tin can and place that, in turn, in a pan of boiling water. Or, use a large double boiler. Any wax is inflammable! Always melt it in a container placed in another container of water over low heat; never over direct heat. Keep the water boiling in the bottom until the wax is melted, then hold it at a temperature that will keep the wax liquid.

If you are lucky enough to have a candle mold, the wax can be poured in it directly. Dip the mold in hot water to loosen the candles slightly for removal after they have hardened.

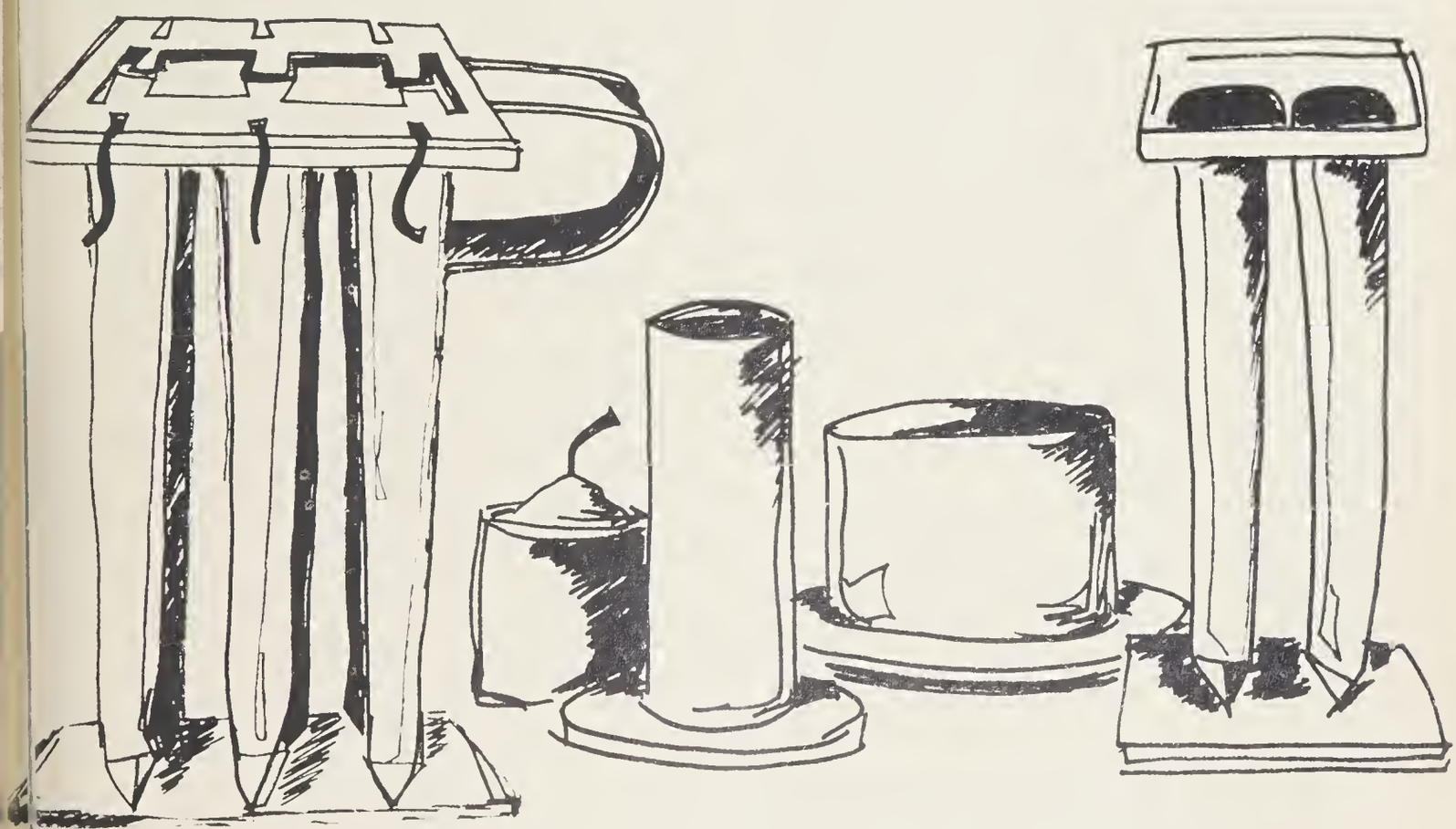
If you are making hand-dipped candles, it is a good idea to make a loop in one end of the wick of each so they can be hung to cool during the dipping process. Dip the wick into the melted wax. Keep doing this, allowing each layer to become firm, until the candle is as thick as you wish it to be. If you are making a half-dozen candles, the first one would be hardened and ready to dip again by the time you finish dipping the sixth one.

As you use your genuine bayberry candles at home, you will agree with Robert Beverly, who wrote in a very early history of Virginia and the Carolinas:

"At the mouths of their rivers, and all along upon the sea, and near many of their creeks and swamps, the myrtle grows, bearing a berry of which they make a hard, brittle wax of a curious green color, which by refining becomes almost transparent. Of this they make candles, which are never greasy to the touch and do not melt with lying in the hottest weather; neither does the snuff of these ever offend the sense like that of a tallow candle, but instead of being disagreeable if an accident puts the candle out, it yields a pleasant fragrance to all who are in the room, insomuch that nice people often put them out on purpose to have the incense of the expiring snuff."

*by Mary Dudley Price.*

# CANDLE MOLDS



# FASHION FAVORITES

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Pattern No. 9491 is cut in sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20
Pattern No. 9420 is cut in sizes 10½, 12½, 14½, 16½ and 18½
Pattern No. 9460 is cut in sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20
Pattern No. 9295 is cut in sizes 10½, 12½, 14½, 16½ and 18½
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Send 75 cents in coin (no stamps) for each pattern to: CAROLINA COUNTRY, Box 42, Old Chelsea Station, New York, New York 10011. For first class mail, add 15 cents for each pattern. Be sure to include your full address, zip code and pattern size.

# ABOUT THE HOUSE

### An Attractive Headboard

For an attractive headboard in th bedroom tack a rug or wall hanging o the wall.

### Leave the Leaves

Leave the leaves . . . don't bur them. Burning leaves causes air pollu tion and wastes money. The leave from one large shade tree can be wort $15 in terms of plant food and humu Pound for pound the leaves of mos trees contain twice as many minera as manure.

### Ball-point Pen Marks

Ball-point pen ink should be r moved immediately from plast upholstered furniture. Use a clo dampened in alcohol to avoid perm nent staining. Then wipe away th alcohol traces with a cloth dampene in clear water.

### Clean Nails

This idea comes in handy when yo have dirty or greasy work to d Before you start the job, take a bar soap and scrape your nails over getting soap under your nails. This w prevent your nails from getting messed up, and help you clean the easier when the job is finished.

### Fat Paper

To simplify the removal of fat fro cooled meat soup and stews, place sheet of waxed paper directly on to of the liquid before refrigerating. The peel off the waxed paper and the f when chilled.

**If you have any helpful hints special information that you woul like to share with our readers, sen them to: About the House, Carolin Country, P.O. Box 1699, Raleigh, N.C 27602.**

# KITCHEN CORNER

The main idea for this month's column is to offer you a recipe from one of our readers that you won't be able to resist trying for Christmas. Cookies and candy seemed to be the place to start so through the files I went looking for the perfect Christmas cookie.

You can't imagine how hard that is when I have to choose one recipe from hundreds of good ones. And you also can't imagine how hungry a person can get!

One other side effect is that I now have all sorts of visions of sugar plums and Christmas trees running through my head and at the moment that I am readying this column for the press, it's only the end of October -- by the time you read this I will have been anxiously awaiting Christmas for two long months!

The recipes are Fry Pan Fruit Balls and Chocolate Balls sent in by Mrs. Jeanette E. Teague who has been making these cookies for seven straight Christmases. Mrs. Teague and her family are served by Davidson EMC.

**If you have a favorite recipe that you would like to share through this column, send it to: Brenda Sargent, Kitchen Corner, P.O. Box 1699, Raleigh, N.C. 27602. Tell us something about the recipe and any helpful tips you have discovered in preparing it, your family and the name of the EMC that serves you. We pay $2 for the recipe chosen monthly for this column.**

## CAROLINA COUNTRY RECIPE
### Fry Pan Fruit Balls

Submitted by Mrs. Jeanette Teague, Winston-Salem, N.C.

- 2 eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 stick butter
- 1 box dates (chop)
- 1/2 lb. mixed candied fruit (chop)
- 1 cup pecans (chop)
- 2 cups Rice Krispies
- 1 tsp. vanilla flavoring
- 1 can flaked coconut

Melt butter in large fry pan over low heat. Add beaten eggs, chopped dates and cream in sugar. Cook over low heat until mixture thickens. Remove from heat and let cool. Add vanilla, fruit, nuts and Rice Krispies. Mix thoroughly and shape into bite-sized balls and roll in coconut. Store in refrigerator. Will keep one month.

### Chocolate Balls

- 2 sticks softened butter
- 1/2 lb. graham cracker crumbs
- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- 1 cup chopped pecans

Mix the four ingredients above then add remaining ingredients:

- 1 can flaked coconut
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 box powdered sugar

Shape into bite-sized balls. Melt 1 large pkg. of semi-sweet chocolate bits and 1/4 small bar parafin in top of double-boiler and dip balls into this mixture. Lay on waxed paper until set then store in refrigerator.

# NEEDLE CRAFT

**Pattern No. 7327**
Pink elephants? Why not! This easy applique quilt will be the joy of any child especially when you use your most colorful scraps. Complete charts, patch patterns and directions are included.

**Pattern No. 7334**
Scallops outline this lacy shell stitched crochet jacket. It makes a lovely top for evening dresses or hostess skirts.

**Pattern No. 7252**
Practical and fun for going places all year long, these children's sweaters are done in Instant Crochet. Use big hooks and worsted for boy's three color vest. Girl's ripple jacket is done in 3-ply fingering.

**Pattern No. 7077**
Please your favorite girl with snug slippers. Give her a welcome gift cozy slippers that cost pennies to make! Crochet of knitting worsted with gay fringe trim, soles of rug yarn.

**Send 75 cents (no stamps) for each pattern to: CAROLINA COUNTRY, Needlecraft Dept., Box 162, Old Chelsea Station, New York, N.Y. 10011. Print your name and full address with zip code and include the pattern number you want.**

# CONSUMER NEWS

*This article has been prepared by the North Carolina State Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division. If you have a complaint or information about unfair or deceptive trade practices, notify the Consumer Protection Division, Office of the Attorney General, P.O. Box 629, Raleigh, North Carolina 27602.*

People who sign credit contracts at home have special protection from fast-talking, high-pressure salesmen.

The North Carolina legislature passed the Retail Installments Sales Act during the 1971 session to protect consumers who sign contracts at home.

It applies to each credit sale purchase made on terms which include a finance charge or more than four installment payments.

A provision in the act deals expressly with the buyer's right to cancel the contract signed within the residence. Cash sales are not included, nor are contracts signed away from the home. Certain items, such as clothing, are not covered in the three-day cancellation right provision, but most other products do fall under this section.

Many North Carolinians, businessmen and consumers, have questioned whether Saturday and Sunday are considered business days if the company or store involved is open during the week-end.

For example, on a recent Wednesday night, a Jacksonville couple was approached by a door-to-door vacuum cleaner salesman. They signed a contract for nearly $350 for a cleaning system. In the contract was the "Buyer's Right to Cancel" clause which stated that they had three business days to notify the company and cancel the contract.

During the next few days, the couple reconsidered and decided against the purchase. They wrote a letter to the company to that effect on Saturday. But, rather than mailing it, they decided to hand-deliver the message after the weekend. That Monday morning the woman returned the cleaning system to the store, explaining that she was exercising her right to cancel.

But company officials refused to take the system back. They told her their store was open for business every Saturday, so Saturday was computed as a business day, and the three-day cancellation period had expired but said the couple could return the cleaner if they forfeited their $80 down payment. The Jacksonville couple considered the proposed settlement unfair. They contacted the Division. The legal staff researched the question.

State law which controls computation of time for acting provides: ". . . The last day of the period is so computed as to be included, unless it is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, in which event the period runs until the end of the next day . . . When the period of time prescribed or allowed is less than seven days, intermediate Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays shall be excluded in the computation."

This means that if a contract is signed in the buyer's home on Wednesday, the purchaser has until the next Monday midnight to cancel the contract.

When buyers do cancel within the specified three-day period, the company can legally retain one per cent of the total selling price.

In the case of the Jacksonville couple, which was investigated by Assistant Attorney General Don Davis, the company manager said that "since the matter had been clarified," the full $80 down payment would be returned to the couple. Company officials also said they would exclude Saturdays when computing future home solicitation contract cancellation deadlines.

If a notice of the cancellation is not included in a contract, the seller must return the total down payment upon request of the buyer. The consumer then must return the product.

And, if the cancellation privilege is not printed on the contract form, the cancellation right continues until the seller does give the notice.

The burden is on the seller to give details and give them accurately.

The buyer, too, should assume responsibility. The Division encourages all citizens to carefully read contracts before signing them.

# Best of Books

**BEASTS OF THE SOUTHERN WILD. By Doris Betts. Harper & Row. 192 pages. $6.95.**

"Short stories today tend to become lost in the general flow of fiction, but Mrs. Betts displays such a rare combination of the tough and the tender, the witty and the compassionate, that her stories deserve to be read and savored – and never lost."

Chapel Hill's Walter Spearman, dean of Tar Heel literary critics, pronounced that judgment in a review of *Beasts of the Southern Wild & Other Stories* in his column, "The Literary Lantern."

The volume is the sixth book of fiction for award-winning Doris Betts, and Spearman's judgment is confirmed by the nine remarkable stories the new book contains. They are haunting, unusual and beautifully told. They show a lively imagination at work, as Spearman also wrote, in areas of human loneliness, human dilemmas and the human search for something or someone to love. More than that, they remind us what a skillful writer Doris Betts is.

There is a touching love story of a disfigured girl's bus trip from Spruce Pine to Tulsa, Okla., to visit a faith healer she has seen on television. There are stories about relationships between different generations, one from a disturbed child's point of view, a story of childbirth, and a unusual story of the strange journey of Benson Watts.

As *Publishers Weekly* said in its review, "These nine stories of the South are yet another example of the exciting writing that is produced in short fiction. . . . These are extraordinary stories – for the writing itself and the human insight each and every one reveals . . . Each tale, beautiful and deeply human, haunts, moves enlightens by its perception."

A native of Statesville, Mrs. Betts is the wife of Sanford attorney Lowry Betts, mother of three children and a member of the English faculty at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

# POET'S CORNER

VERSES FROM OUR READERS

### The Sleepy Fire

Have you ever watched a sleepy fire
While you sat up late at night?
Flicker a lazy sleepy head as it
Gaily gives a yellow light.

Sparkles, smiles, jumps and wiggles,
Does a dance of some kind,
Winds around the old legs until he
Thinks it's bedtime.

Often I read a story book by the
Fireside burning bright
And watch its flickering blaze as
It gives the room a light.

Sometimes I sit by the fireplace and
Watch the embers die,
Or toss a chunk of wood on the fire
As the smoke sails up to the sky.

Shadows of the colorful yellow blaze
Has a magic romantic kind of glow,
Casting long lovely haunting shadows
While it dances to and fro.

Strange images of different odd shapes
And loud cracking of wood we hear,
The lazy fire is very haunting as we
Sit with grandma so dear.

Granny tells us all a bedtime story
And puts on her red night hood,
The sleepy fire slowly nods and doses
Over a few chunks of wood.

Joann Denton
Morganton

### Today

In this special day,
I wanted everything just right.
So I prepared everything in that way –
My only problem was
Getting myself ready.

Dawn Sanderson
Thomasville

### Friends

Friends, How could we do without them?
Whose hearts are warm and true.
Who seem to always understand.
Every trial we go through.
They laugh with you when you're happy
They smile when you succeed.
Willing to offer a helping hand.
And to know just what you need
Times, places or circumstance
Don't change the heart of a friend.
Friendship has its beginning
But does it have an end?
A chord to a heart was broken
And longed for that old sweet refrain.
The time and place seemed so hard to face
Then someone spoke softly a name.
Other words need not be spoken
A smile that said . . . I understand.
Someone tried their best,
Tried to meet the test
Of the task that was in demand.
In this world of problems and progress
And its ever changing trend,
Dear Lord I pray
At the dawn of each day,
Please let me be a friend.

Ruth Glenn Anthony
Vale

### Time

It's today.
It's tomorrow.
It contains hope,
For no more sorrow.

It's yesterday.
It's the past.
It's fleeting
So make it last.

Pam Harrison
Wake Forest

### An Unknown Love

Two lovers pass, but do not speak–
Love only with their eyes.
For as they pass, each steals a glance
And then they walk on by.

They close their eyes and breathe a sigh;
In love but do not know.
"It's weakness," thus they both contend,
"To be the first to show."

So love lives only in their dreams,
And blooms in yellow hues.
He says, "She cares for me" and she
"I think he loves me, too."

Martha Ann Ford
Lexington

### Enduring Hatteras Light

The light comes alive towards the end of day,
To guide the mariner to his place of rest;
The trusting light will not betray,
Those that she serves, for they are her guest.

They pass her way, many ships each night,
They know her light, and they know her might.
To the sailors of the sea she has attended,
For decades and more she has been most splendid.

Robert P. Richardson
Huntersville

### Entree Country Style

If you must give a formal dinner,
Then serve it with genteel finesse.
Make sure your entree is a winner
Lest you should meet with ill success.
For though your larder stands replete,
And though you're noted for your means,
No festive board is quite complete
Without a bowl of pinto beans!

Paul Ellis Bowman
Hickory


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# Should you expect to be paid for babysitting your brothers and sisters?

"It depends on the occasion. I think when the parents go on an errand for the family, whether grocery shopping or for something for the home, a teenager should not expect to be paid for taking care of the younger children – especially if he already receives an allowance. But I also think when the parents go out for an evening of fun, the sitter is entitled to a fee. Perhaps if the occasion is an anniversary, or such, he could sit for Mom and Dad free as a gift."

**Tammy R. Hill**
**Fayetteville**

*Tammy is 14 and in the ninth grade at Pine Forest Jr. High. Her hobbies are reading playing the piano and drawing. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Hill Jr., are served by South River EMC.*

"It depends on how long you're babysitting. If it's on a regular basis, I think you should be paid. But, if it is just an occasional job then you should willingly help out."

**Rita Hailey**
**Wake Forest**

*Rita is a freshman at Wake Forest Jr. High. Her interests include reading, decoupage and bike riding.*

"Yes, I think a person deserves a fee for babysitting, b for your own family you should not expect to be paid f each occurance. A teenager must take responsibility f some of the duties performed within a household, and sor form of gratitude should be expressed. Money is not alwa the answer."

**Susan M. Harw**
**Sherrills Fo**

*Susan is 17 and a junior at Bandys High School Catawba. She enjoys sewing, decoupage, knitting a daneing in her free time. Her family is served by Cresce EMC.*

"Yes! Babysitting is quite a job even for an adult much more so for a teenager. I have babysat for otl people, but I have also babysat for my parents. I know tl it is more difficult to take care of my younger brother a sisters because they know how to get around me. I thi parents should pay whatever they normally would p someone else."

**Nona Winebar**
**Len**

*Nona is 14 and attends Hudson High School. She enj handicrafts and art. The Winebarger family is served Blue Ridge EMC.*

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# TEEN ROUNDTABLE

## NEXT QUESTION

**How can you stop someone at school from copying your paper?**

This question was submitted by Susie Lynch of Enfield. Susie's hobbies are sewing, swimming and eating! She and her family are served by Halifax EMC.

If you have a good answer, send it to THE TEEN ROUNDTABLE, Carolina Country, P.O. Box 1699, Raleigh, N.C. 27602 at once. Tell us a few facts about yourself – your age, school, hobbies, etc. Include your parents' name and the name of the electric membership corporation serving you. If your answer is published, we will send you $5.
If you want to submit a question, send it along and for each one used the sender will get a $5 check

# All Will Share Its Benefits

By Gary Tabak
Executive Vice President, Power in Carolina Inc.

(Condensed from an article in The Carolina Financial Times)

*EPIC, incorporated in March 1970 by 28 electric cooperatives nd 45 electric municipalities, will assure member systems and their onsumers of adequate, reasonably priced power. At the same time, will benefit all electric consumers in the state by providing North arolina a badly needed additional source of electricity.*

orth Carolina has over 100 separate electric distribution systems which are either cooperatively or municipally wned. These systems are operated on a non-profit basis ith their primary objective to provide their consumers dequate electric service at the lowest possible cost. Almost ithout exception, these systems possess no generating apacity and must purchase their wholesale power require- ents mainly from investor-owned power companies in the ate.

The more farsighted individuals in these systems recog- ized that the cooperatives and municipals shared a com- on destiny, and that the long range feature of their ectric systems was dependent upon their ability to enter e generation and transmission phase of the electric utility dustry. Neither the cooperatives nor municipalities were rge enough themselves to economically justify the build- g of massive generating facilities which could produce the onomies of scale inherent in such facilities. As a mbined force, however, the two segments would certain- have all generation options open to them.

Putting aside past differences, 45 municipalities and 28 ral electric cooperatives decided to join in an orginiza- n called Electric Power in Carolina, or EPIC, to study the ssibilities of self-generation. These incorporating entities ew in March of 1970 that two inescapable trends were at rk in the electric utility industry. The first was the wing percentage of wholesale power supply costs in their tal cost picture. At present, these power supply costs run out 50% of total costs and are expected to climb to 60% the year 1990, and it is the only component of their tal cost picture that can realistically be expected to be nificantly reduced.

The second trend of which this country is being reasingly made aware is the so-called "energy crisis." e need not be very astute to appreciate the dilemma of ing a captive wholesale customer during a period of short pply and rapidly rising prices.

With this background in mind, EPIC was incorporated to dy the legal, technical, and economic feasibility of coming an independent power supplier. An intensive o-year study period culminated in the issuance of a tailed feasibility report. The major findings of the report as follows.

Through the construction of an ultra-modern generation d transmission system consisting of nuclear, fossil and droelectirc facilities, EPIC's members could enjoy a wer-cost savings of almost 2 billion dollars over the period 1983 to 1995 over the alternative of continued wholesale purchases. Average annual savings would run in the order of 150 million dollars, starting with a 5% savings in the first year and rising to 31% by 1995.

The EPIC system was designed to meet the bulk of the projected load of the EPIC member systems in 1983 of 4,693 megawatts. The load demand is expected to increase to 12,329 megawatts by 1995, which would represent almost a tripling of load demand in just 13 years. The EPIC system was specifically designed so as to allow interconnections with other electric systems in the state to avoid the constructions of environmentally degrading dupli- duplicate facilities.

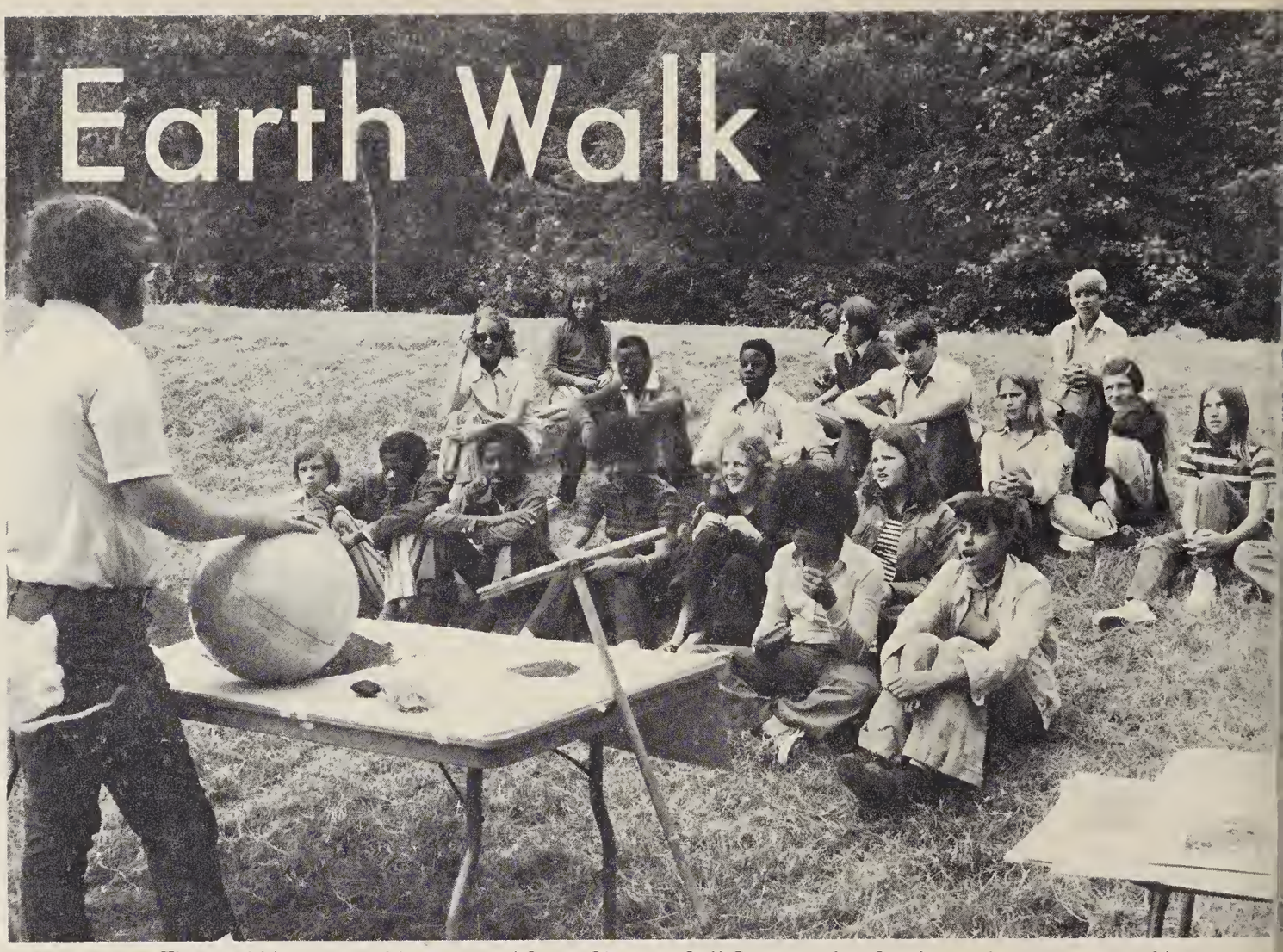
The total cost of the EPIC initial system was placed at almost 3.25 billion dollars, and advice of the investment community was sought as to the feasibility of raising the magnitude of investment capital. EPIC was fortunate to have as its investment advisers five of the leading investment banking firms on Wall Street. These firms were of the unanimous opinion that the debt securities could be marketed under a security arrangement whereby the member system's electric revenues were pledged. Such a financing package would, they added, be subject only to final legal clearances.

The EPIC board of directors, upon receipt of the feasibility report and advice of their investment advisers, directed that litigation be pursued to attain the necessary legal clearances. Such litigation was initiated in the Superior Court of Cleveland County, North Carolina, in November of 1972, upon signing of the Power Sales and System Development Contract by one of the principal municipalities, the City of Shelby, and North Carolina Consumers Power, a municipally-owned and controlled corporation brought into being by EPIC.

The litigation is now in progress, and after a favorable ruling on many of the procedural issues, is now before the N.C. Court of Appeals. Final resolution of the case is still seen as many months away.

It is my firmly-held opinion that EPIC's self-help effort to enter the generating, or manufacturing, phase of the electric utility industry will prove to be of great benefit to all the electric consumers of North Carolina, as it will provide comparative, or yardstick, cost competition not now present in this state. Wholesale competition with the electric utility industry has always been allowable in fact, desired. And it should be emphasized that it is, indeed, wholesale competition, since EPIC will not displace a single retail customer of other electric suppliers. EPIC's quest of power supply independence is wholly within the parameters of allowable adjustments in a free competitive market place to achieve lower costs and greater operating efficiencies. It is to that end that EPIC has dedicated itself.

# Earth Walk



**The world is a space ship, too, and Steve Clayton, Soil Conservation Service, points out some of its life-sustaining systems for this seventh grade class.**

Photos Courtesy USDA
Soil Conservation Service

How can we keep our spacecraft's systems going?

This is one of the questions 420 students pondered as they walked a course through fields and woods, and along a lake shore.

No, not one of the apollo craft or Skylab. This one called Earth.

As they walked, they confronted the mechanism of their oxygen supply; considered the vulnerability of their re-circulating water system; the earth's capacity to produce food, clothing and shelter for a rapidly growing human population; and a faltering system of waste disposal.

They looked at how trees grow and at the reasons some do not. They entered into the watery world of plankton and measured its temperature and oxygen availability. They broke parent material in their fingers and traced its development into life-sustaining soil.

**Potential engineers take a sighting with a surveyor's transit.**

They considered the economy o our time-saving amenities – and n costs of inexpensive throw-aways.

This was the third of wha becoming a traditional "Earth Wa by seventh grade students of Charles W. Stanford Junior H School in Orange County.

The 14 classes of the seventh g include at some time all the stud of the Orange County school syst

Along the course of the day-l walk were special relay stat manned by men and wo knowledgeable and experienced some functions of the spaceship E – personnel from a number of s and federal environmental agencies

As each group in its proper quence arrived, it became involve an on-site environmental experie

The Agricultural Extension Ser provided on-the-spot examples o

utilizing vegetation, terrain, geology, water and other natural features for economic, aesthetic, and environmental enhancement.

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission set up facilities at the edge of a lake for giving the students an authentic experience in aquatic biology; another station provided a 25-minute capsule of wildlife, habitat, and management in general.

The N.C. Forest Service placed some of its equipment in the woods for an on-site presentation of the subject of forestry.

The U.S. Soil Conservation Service station explored the inter-relationship of the renewable natural resources – air, water, soil, vegetation, wildlife, and scenic beauty shown to be elements in the complex system providing for man's physical and some of his spiritual necessities.

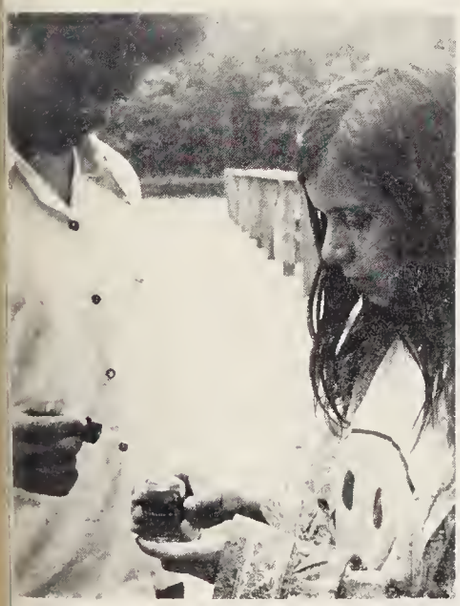
At another station soil scientists from the Soil Conservation Service and N.C. State University pointed out the slow development of plant-and-animal-supporting soil from its beginning in disintergrating rock.

Environmental Protection Agency personnel explained the processes by which the pollution of air, water, soil and organisms are monitored and how changes in the system are devised and implemented to preserve or restore these elements of our planet to their life-sustaining state.

The "Earth Walk" was proceeded by several weeks of classroom study and research by the students.

A check of the lake under the supervision of a biologist of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission indicates how the water is faring in this part of the earth's water cycling system.

Discussion of the utilization of trees and shrubs, terrain, geologic formations and other natural features for the enhancement of the places we live and work is led by Bob Mehlhorn, Orange County Assistant Extension Agent.



Water quality gets a check out at an aquatic biology station.

# PEOPLE

**Robert G. Holden** of Robbins, general manager of Randolph Telephone Membership Corporation of Asheboro: appointed by Governor Holshouser to a four-year term on the board of directors of the N.C. Rural Electrification Authority.

**Mrs. Ruth Cherry**, Rt. 2, Rocky Mount, Rural Electric Women's leader: elected vice president of N.C. 4-H Development Fund.

**Robert N. Cleveland**, general manager of N.C. EMC: elected to four-year term as director and member of executive committe of 4-H Development Fund.

**Bill Humphries**, farm editor of The News and Observer, Raleigh: presented a plaque by the North Carolina State Grange honoring him for distinguished service to agriculture. The plaque said Bill "has the ability to communicate with rural people. He understands them, their problems and their needs. At the same time he is keenly aware of the need for rural-urban understanding . . ."

Humphries

Carlton

**W.C. (Bill) Carlton**: retired September 30 after 23 years as general manager of Carteret-Craven EMC of Morehead City. Nationally known as a rural electric leader, he has helped establish electric cooperatives in Costa Rica, Venezuela and India, served on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Long-Range Study Committee, was a founding director of National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC) and a past president of Tarheel Electric Membership Association.

**B.F. (Bernie) Morton**, assistant manager of Carteret-Craven EMC: named general manager succeeding Carlton.

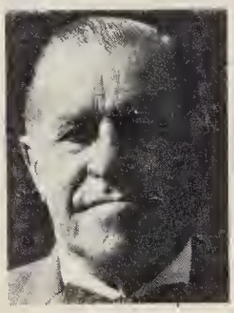
**Board of directors of N.C. Rural Electrification Authority with new membe Robert G. Holden of Rt. 2, Robbins, Standing: Holden and Gwyn B. Price o Warrensville. Seated (left to right): J.C. Thompson of Rt. 3, Mt. Gilead, W Kitchin Benson of Battleboro and Walter S. Smiley of Macon.**

**Edward E. Brown Jr.**, associate editor of *Carolina Country* since Feb. 15, 1968, and acting general manger of N.C. EMC from May 2 to Oct. 15, accepted a fulltime management post Nov. 12 as staff assistant at Albemar EMC in Hertford. Ed, whose paren live at Plymouth, is a 1966 graduate of N.C. State University, with a master's in journalism from UNC-Chapel Hill. He and his wife Jean have a son and daughter.

Brown

## National Record

**R.V. Knight** of Tarboro and **C.W. Mayo** of Rt. 1, Tarboro, veteran directors of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, Tarboro, share what *Carolina Country* believes is a national record. They were elected to the board at the first meeting of members of the cooperative (first EMC in the state) on July 8, 1936. Re-elected to successive terms, Knight and Mayo have served on the board more than 37 years. So far as *Carolina Country* can learn, that the longest continuous service for any director of any electric cooperative organized under the REA program anywhere in the U.S. Both Knight and Mayo have held every position, including president, on the Edgecombe-Martin County EMC board.



Mayo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# HALE

Two laborers in Brazil were hired to
iint some flagpoles. One fellow stood
1 the other's shoulder and reached up
far as he could. The superintendent
ıssed by and wanted to know what
ey were doing. "We've got to
easure how high the pole is so we
n know how much paint we will
ed." So the Super said, "Nonsense.
ıke the flagpole down and lay it on
e ground. Then you can measure it."
ne of the laborers said, "A lot you
ow. We want to find out how high
is, not how long it is."

* * * * *

A stubborn and frugal minister
used to see a doctor and insisted on
ating himself with the use of an old
tdated medical encyclopedia. Early
e morning the clergyman died dur-
his self-treatment of a minor ail-
nt. The coroner's inquest showed
t the death was related to the use
the old medical manual. Coroner's
ort stated as the cause of death:
e died of a typographical error."

* * * * *

Two guys were fishing. Their luck
s so good they were catching fish as
er before. As the sun went down,
fisherman said to the other,
"You'd better mark this place." When they got to the pier, the first fisherman asked the second, "Did you mark the spot?"

"Sure I did, I put a cross on the side of the boat just over the good spot."

"You idiot!" the fisherman cried, "How do you know we can get this same boat tomorrow?"

* * * * *

A woman was being prepared for surgery. The doctor told her they would have to give her gas during the operation. "Will I know everything when I come out from under the gas?" she asked.

The doctor replied, "That's asking a lot of the gas!"

* * * * *

"Most people are crazy," said the psychiatrist to another. "Let me ask you some questions that I ask my patients, just to give you an example."

Then he asked: "What has smooth curves and sometimes is uncontrollable?"

The other psychiatrist said it was a baseball of pitcher, of course.

"Next, what wears a skirt and whose lips bring you pleasure?"

The older doctor said the answer to that one was a man who plays a bagpipe.

"You know the answers," said the first, "but it is amazing what strange answers my patients give me."

"Have I been good? You mean all these weeks of strain and privation don't show?"


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